Message Text

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R 182049Z JUL 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: MISSION TO JAPAN BY AMERICAN IMPORTED AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION (AIADA)

1. IN A MEETING WITH ASST. SECRETARY KATZ ON JULY 8, REPRESENTATIVES OF AIADA DISCUSSED THEIR PLANS FOR A MISSION TO JAPAN, TO TAKE PLACE AUGUST 20 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2. AIADA'S OBJECTIVE IS TO CONVINCE JAPANESE CAR MANUFACTURERS TO STEP UP PLANS FOR INVESTMENT IN THE U.S. A SIMILAR MISSION TO GERMANY IN 1973, ACCORDING TO AIADA, PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN VOLKSWAGEN'S DECISION TO BUILD AN ASSEMBLY PLANT IN THE U.S. ASST. SECRETARY KATZ WELCOMED AIADA'S INITIATIVE AND URGED THEM TO CALL ON THE DEPARTMENT AND THE EMBASSY FOR ANY NECESSARY ASSISTANCE.

2. IN A LETTER TO MR. KATZ DATED JULY 14 (COPY BEING POUCHED), AIADA EXECUTIVE VP ROBERT MCELWAINE REQUESTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY PROVIDE BRIEFINGS FOR MEMBERS OF THE TEAM, THAT THE EMBASSY SET UP APPOINTMENTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR THE TEAM WITH MITI, MOF AND, IF APPROPRIATE, WITH THE BOJ. IN ADDITION, THE AIADA REPRESENTATIVES WISH AN EMBASSY OFFICER TO ACCOMPANY THEM TO THEIR MEETINGS WITH GOJ, JAMA, AND THE INDIVIDUAL JAPANESE AUTO FIRMS.

3. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE AIADA TEAM WITH A BRIEFING AND TO SET UP APPOINTMENTS WITH GOJ OFFICIALS

YOU FEEL ARE APPROPRIATE. EMBASSY OFFICER SHOULD, IF POSSIBLE, ACCOMPANY AIADA TEAM TO MEETINGS WITH GOJ OFFICIALS. WE LEAVE IT TO EMBASSY'S DISCRETION WHETHER TO ACCOMPANY AIADA TEAM TO MEETINGS WITH JAMA AND PRIVATE FIRMS. VANCE

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TAGS: ETRD, EINV, JA, US, AIADA

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